

Senate File 2298 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2298

BY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2153)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing an AmeriCorps program for the economic
2 well-being and health of refugees, and including provisions
3 for contingent implementation.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 15H.5, subsection 5, paragraph a, Code
2 2016, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. Funding for the Iowa summer youth corps program, the Iowa
4 green corps program established pursuant to [section 15H.6](#), and
5 the Iowa reading corps program established pursuant to section
6 15H.7, and the RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps program established
7 pursuant to section 15H.8, shall be obtained from private
8 sector, and local, state, and federal government sources, or
9 from other available funds credited to the community programs
10 account, which shall be created within the economic development
11 authority under the authority of the commission. Moneys
12 available in the account for a fiscal year are appropriated to
13 the commission to be used for the programs. The commission
14 may establish an escrow account within the authority and
15 obligate moneys within that escrow account for tuition or
16 program payments to be made beyond the term of any fiscal year.
17 Notwithstanding [section 12C.7, subsection 2](#), interest earned
18 on moneys in the community programs account shall be credited
19 to the account. Notwithstanding [section 8.33](#), moneys in the
20 community programs account or escrow account shall not revert
21 to the general fund but shall remain available for expenditure
22 in future fiscal years.

23 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 15H.8 **RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps program.**

24 1. a. The Iowa commission on volunteer service, in
25 collaboration with the department of human services, shall
26 establish a Refugee Rebuild, Integrate, Serve, Empower
27 (RefugeeRISE) AmeriCorps program to increase community
28 integration and engagement for diverse refugee communities in
29 rural and urban areas across the state.

30 b. The commission, in collaboration with the department
31 of human services, may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to
32 implement and administer this section.

33 2. The commission may use moneys in and lawfully available
34 to the community programs account created in section 15H.5 to
35 fund the program.

